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CPS/HFC/pge

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24 June 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, SUPPORT BRANCH, C.P.S.

SUBJECT: ANSCOL "Dictionary".

1. In accordance with request made in your D/F dated 6/18/46, the following comments upon the so-called "Dictionary" are offered:-

Page 4.

aerial photography, interpretation of - Change second sentence to read as follows: "For military purposes, this process is applied to the terrain and the enemy installations, strength, dispositions and activities, from which the enemy capabilities can be estimated."

Comment. The original sentence limits the process to certain things; photo-interpretation should not be undertaken with definite limits in mind, to the exclusion of all else which the study of the photos might discover.

Page 14.

area, defiladed - Change definition to read as follows: "An area not covered by enemy ground observation or enemy ground fire by reason of an intervening obstacle."

Comment. The original definition does not account for defilade from fire.

Pages 16-17.

arm - Definition 3. should be changed to read as follows: "One of the combatant branches, such as Infantry, Artillery, Cavalry, Armored Forces, Air Forces, Engineers, etc., which comprise the line of the army."

Comment. Combination of Field and Coast Artillery into one Artillery arm is in prospect; Armored Forces, Air Forces and Engineers should be included in those arms specifically mentioned.

Page 22.

ballistics - Following changes should be made: "The science dealing with the behavior of projectiles or bombs in motion. Interior ballistics deal with the behavior of projectiles in motion within the bore of a gun or other tubular firing apparatus. Exterior ballistics deal with the behavior of projectiles or bombs after leaving the firing, launching or dropping apparatus."

Comment. The original definition does not take into account bombs and depth charges (which are dropped), torpedoes which are in motion through the water, rockets and V-weapons which may be in motion through strata other than the atmosphere, etc.

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Page 37.

capabilities, enemy - Suggest that the phrase, "and which can possibly hinder or prevent the accomplishment of one's own mission." be deleted.  
Comment. The enemy capabilities are not necessarily limited to physical possibilities related to one's own mission.

Page 49.

collection - The present definition should be numbered "1." and a second definition should be added as follows: "2. The process of acquiring information for intelligence purposes."

Page 50.

No definition of "combat" is offered. It seems appropriate that one be included, to include Air, Ground and Naval Combat.

Page 61.

sub. Suggest addition of the following "2. Type of small liaison airplane."

Page 95.

general staff - Suggest that the word "army" be deleted from the first line of the definition, so as to read: "A group of officers in a division -----etc."

Comment. Marine Divisions have general staffs; officers other than army officers are often members of general staffs.

Page 102.

hospital ship - Suggest that the words "United States" be replaced by the words "home country". Suggest also that the international markings for hospital ships be described.

Comment. Altered as suggested, the definition would fit an enemy hospital ship as well as our own. The addition of the description of the markings would be useful.

Page 104.

information, evaluation of - Suggest that the sequence of qualities be altered to more normal order, as follows: "----- for the purpose of determining its credibility, accuracy and usefulness."

Comment. The usefulness of an item depends upon, (1) its credibility, meaning the reliability of the source and, (2) its probable accuracy, which depends upon its credibility and its relation to already verified items.

Page 105.

intelligence, combat - Present definition should be changed to read as follows: "Intelligence produced in time of war for use in combat."

Page 106.

intercept, night - I do not agree that "all night intercepts are also controlled intercepts." Fifth Air Force made many night intercepts which were based upon radio intelligence and which were not controlled in any sense between take-off and landing of the night fighters.

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Page 107.

Interrogate - Suggest that the definition be revised to read: "\_\_\_\_\_ of information of possible intelligence value."

Comment. The information is only of possible value and its actual value, if any, is only established by evaluation after the interrogation is over.

Page 111.

knot - The equivalent of one nautical mile, in terms of statute miles, should be carried to 1.1516 for accurate work.

Page 115.

line, bomb - Recommend that the word "ground" be deleted from the phrase "friendly ground forces," and that the phrase read, "friendly forces."

Comment. I have known of bomb lines which protected friendly naval forces as well as friendly ground forces. Similar broader interpretation may be necessary at any time.

Page 121.

map, circulation - To the definition should be added the phrase: "also called Traffic Map".

Page 122.

map, line route - To the definition should be added the phrase: "Also called Communications Map".

Page 126.

\*military - Suggest that the definition be changed to read: "Of or pertaining to war or the affairs of war: more strictly, pertaining to the armed forces, land, sea and air."

Page 136.

Between "operational control" and "operational reserve" suggest interpolation of "operational intelligence - See Intelligence, Combat."

Page 144.

plan, intelligence - Suggest the deletion of the phrase, "a list of the phases of an operation."

Comment. An intelligence plan is not necessarily connected with the phases of an operation, or even with an operation in the narrow sense at all.

Page 148.

production loss appraisal - Suggest the addition of the sentence: "this is normally accomplished, in combat, through the interpretation of 'Before-and-after' aerial photographs."

Page 148.

projectile - many types of projectiles are not fired from a gun or by means of an explosive propelling charge; e.g.: torpedoes, rockets, V-weapons, etc. The definition should be expanded.

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Page 154.

reconnaissance - The use of the phrase, "in uniform" is unwarranted and unnecessarily limiting. Recommend the definition be changed to read: "The search made by the most appropriate available means for useful military information in the field."

reconnaissance, map - Recommend that the last sentence be changed to read: "Circumstances occasionally demand that map reconnaissance be substituted for direct observation, but such substitution should only be made when direct observation is not possible."

Page 162.

screen - Definition of "screen" as applied to the examination of personnel for security should be added. This is a Security Branch job.

Page 173.


strategic materials - It is not believed that "strategic materials" are only "procured entirely or to a substantial degree from sources outside the continental limits of the United States---etc." Uranium, for example, is a "strategic material" whether it is found in the United States or Timbuctoo.

Page 187.

touchdown - There should be added a definition of the "touchdown weight of an airplane." The present commentator is not sufficiently informed in such technical matters to endeavor to write a definition of this phrase but he knows that the weight of the plane, divided between the tire surface areas which initially touch the runway, in landing, gives a "touchdown weight" from which the ability of the runway to receive the plane, without damage to the runway, can be calculated.

2. The injunction contained in the D/F which invited the foregoing--to confine C.I.G. comments to the absolute minimum--has been disregarded. This for the reason that a job which is done with the minimum of effort, is not a job at all. The major part of the week-end was devoted to a careful study of every definition contained in the "Dictionary" (which should be called a "Glossary of Terms") in the effort to do a job.

  
Acting Chief, Information Branch, C.P.S.

Distribution:- Support;  
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